

FACT SHEET

DIRECT FINAL AND ACCOMPANYING PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO EMISSION GUIDELINES AND FEDERAL PLAN FOR LARGE MUNICIPAL WASTE COMBUSTOR (MWC) UNITS

ACTION

- ! On July 8, 2004, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a direct final rule to correct an oversight in its regulations to control air emissions from large municipal waste combustor (MWC) units.
- ! The direct final rule adds a carbon monoxide (CO) emission limit for a unique type of MWC unit (fluidized bed combustion type MWC burning mixtures of wood and municipal solid waste).
- ! This change will add the same CO limit to the large MWC regulations as currently contained in the regulations covering small MWC.
- ! Large MWC units are those that fire more than 250 tons per day of municipal solid waste (about 25 garbage trucks).

HEALTH/ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS AND COSTS

- ! This amendment will not impact large MWC operations or emissions.
- ! This amendment will not impose additional costs on these MWC units. These MWCs have already installed and are operating under “good combustion practices” and comply with the CO limit.

BACKGROUND

- ! The Clean Air Act requires EPA to set emission guidelines for existing MWC units. These are uniform national requirements that limit the amount of air pollution allowed from existing MWC units.
- ! EPA issued emissions guidelines for large existing MWC units in 1995. At that time, EPA was not aware of any large fluidized bed combustion type MWC units burning mixtures of wood and municipal solid waste.
- ! EPA recently identified two existing MWC units of this configuration. They are located at the French Island MWC plant in LaCrosse, WI..
- ! When EPA finalized the small MWC regulations in 2000, the Agency was aware of MWC of

this type and included a unique CO limit for them in the small MWC regulation.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- ! To download the final standards from EPA's web site, go to "Recent Actions" at the following address: <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg>.
- ! For further information about the final rules, contact Mr. Walt Stevenson at EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards at 919-541-5264.
- ! For information regarding large MWC, visit EPA's web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/atw/129/mwc/rimwc.html> For other combustion-related regulations, visit EPA's Combustion Related Rules page at: <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/atw/combust/list.html>.